Soviet Forces Seen Lagging In Cuba Exit

Associated Press

Some slowdown in the removal of Soviet troops from Communist Cuba was reported in informed circles yesterday.

Authoritative quarters said they had no dependable explanation for an apparent delay in getting the Soviet troops out, but expressed belief that the raids and threats of sabotage and infiltration by Cuban exile groups were no more than one of a number of possible contributory causes.

A more probable reason, the experts said, was the possibility that the Cuban armed forces wanted a little more training time with the sophisticated weapons supplied Cuba by the Soviet Union and other Iron Curtain countries.

Another factor, they added, may have been the U.S. plans to continue surveillance flights over Cuba, despite complaints by the Premier Fidel Castro regime and warnings from Moscow.

Earlier last month, authoritative sources in Washington left the impression that they had expected a mass movement of Soviet troops out of Cuba in May. Now the feeling here is that this has not taken place, although considerable numbers, in small groups, have been going out on ships and planes.